

Why are there disjunctive particles in Sinhala & Dravidian relative-correlatives?

Existential particles in non-existential environments

Benjamin Slade

Dept. of Linguistics
University of Utah

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“conjunctive”/“universal” and “disjunctive”/“existential” particles in select languages

Superparticles

- In a number of languages, including Japanese, Sinhala, and Dravidian, we find particles from 2 series playing a wide variety of roles (Szabolcsi 2010, 2015, Slade 2011, Mitrović 2014, amongst others; cf. Reichenbach 1947, Rohrer 1973).
- The μ -type (< Japanese *mo*) appears in UNIVERSAL & CONJUNCTIVE environments; the κ -type (< Japanese *ka*) in EXISTENTIAL & DISJUNCTIVE (& INTERROGATIVE) environments.

	Japanese	Dravidian	Sinhala	Nepali	Hindi	Hungarian
μ -series	mo	um	t	pani	bhī	is, mind
κ -series	ka ...	ō	da (də), hō (hari)	—	—	vagy ...

Table: μ & κ series in select languages

Examples of μ environments

	Japanese	Dravidian	Sinhala	Nepali	Hindi	Hungarian
everyone, anyone	dare- mo	ār- um	kauru- t	—	—	mind -en-ki
both A&B	A- mo B- mo	A- um B- um	— P- t Q- t	A pani B pani	A bhī B bhī	mind A mind B A is (és) B is
A too, even A	A- mo	A- um	A- t	A pani	A bhī	A is

Table: μ elements

Examples of κ environments

	Japanese	Dravidian	Sinhala	Nepali	Hindi	Hungarian
someone	dare- ka	ā- ō	kau- də	—	—	vala -ki
who Vs?	dare-ga V... ka	—	V-e...kau- də	—	—	—
A or B	A- ka B(- ka)	A- ō B- ō	A- də B- də , A- hari B- hari	—	—	(vagy) A vagy B

Table: κ elements

Sinhala *da* in Classical Sinhala

Usually appears in yes/no questions

- (1) To me suta Budun desannā āsūhu **da?**
 2SG-PRN this sermon Buddha preach.PRES.PTCP.NOM hear.PAST.2SG **da**
 “Did you hear the Buddha preaching this sermon?” [*Amāvatura* 228, Wijemanne 1984: 71]

Sometimes but not always in *wh*-questions

- (2) Dæn paeviji væ kumaṭa kiyam **da?**
 now ordained been what.DAT say.PRES.1SG **da**
 “Now that I am a monk, why would I say it?” [*Amāvatura* 76]

Appears in alternative questions

- (3) mā . . . nuvaṭahu arabhayā kī dæ nipan **da** no nipan **da?**
 my . . . religious mendicant about said things QUOT born **da** NEG born **da?**
 “Did my predictions regarding the religious mendicant prove correct or did they not?” (12th century, *Amāvatura* 178) (Wijemanne 1984: 75)

In non-interrogative contexts, *hō* appears rather than *da*

- (4) yuvaraja-væ siṭiyavun **hō** . . . rāja-kumāra-varun **hō** . . . bisōvarun **hō**
 heir-apparent **hō** . . . princes **hō** . . . queen **hō**
 “Either the heir-apparent . . . or the princes . . . or the queen” (12th c. inscription; Wickremasinghe et al. 1912–1933: ii.161B⁵⁻⁷)

Relative-Correlatives in Classical Sinhala & Dravidian

Structure

Relative-correlatives in Classical (& modern literary) Sinhala always involve a “clause-closing” particle. The same is true in (modern) South/South-Central Dravidian (Hock 1988, 1989, 2008). These “clause-closing” particles are *da* in Sinhala and *ō* in Dravidian.

Early Sinhala & Dravidian relative-correlatives

Classical Sinhala

- (5) [*yamak'hu* *paḷamu diṭim*]_{RC} **-da** [*ohu marā* ...]_{CC}
 [**REL-PRON.MSC.SG.ACC** *firstly* *see.1SG*]_{RC} **-da** [*him kill.CONV* ...]_{CC}
 “**Whoever**_i I see first, I shall kill him_i ...”
 (*Amāvatura* 133, Wijemanne 1984:210)

Malayalam

- (6) [*ārə manassə aṭakkunnuv*] **-ō** [*avaṇṇə samādhānam kiṭṭunnu*]
 [**who** *mind* *control.PRES*]_{RC} **-ō** [*he.DAT* *peace* *obtain.PRES*]_{CC}
 “**Whoever**_i controls his mind, he_i obtains peace.”
 (Asher & Kumari 1997:54)

both κ-series elements: Sinhala *da*, Malayalam *ō*

“Ever” relative-correlatives in other Indo-Aryan languages

Hindi

- (7) [*jab bhī dillī jātā hū*] [*tab hindī hī boltā hū*]
 [**REL.when** *bhī* Delhi go.IMPF.MSC.SG be.1SG.PRES] [then Hindi EMPH speak.IMPF.MSC.SG be.1SG.PRES]

“Whenever I go to Delhi, (then) I speak Hindi, of course.” (McGregor 1995. 3rd edn.: 92)

Nepali

- (8) [*jahilesukai usko ghar gae pani*] [**REL.whenever** his house go.2PERF-PTCP.3SG] *pani* [*uslāi kahile pani bhet hūdaina*]
 [meet be.NEG.PRES.3SG]

“Whenever you go to his house, you can never meet him.” (Matthews 1998: 184)

both μ -series elements: Hindi *bhī*, Nepali *pani*

“ever” free relatives crosslinguistically

wh/(rel. pro.)+ μ form

- **English:** *wh*+“ever”, e.g. *whoever*, *whatever*, *whereever*, *however* (**whyever*)
- **Italian:** *wh*+“ever”, e.g. *chiunque* “whoever” (Caponigro 2003)
- **Czech:** *wh*+ “ever”, e.g. *cokoliv* “whatever” (Šimík 2016)
- **Bulgarian:** *wh*+“also”, e.g. *kakvoto i* “whatever” (Izvorski 2000)
- **Dutch:** *wh*+“then”+“also”, e.g. *wie dan ook* “whoever” (Rullmann 1996)
- **Indo-Aryan** (Hindi, Nepali,...): rel. pron.+“also/ever”, e.g. Hindi *jo bhī* “whoever”
- **Japanese:** *wh*+“even”, e.g. *dare-demo* “whoever” (Nishigauchi 1986)

wh+modal marker

- **Greek**, e.g. *opjos-dhipote* “whoever” (Giannakidou 1998, 2001)
- **Spanish** *qual-quiera* & **Catalan** *qual-sevol* “whoever” (Quer 1998)

other strategies

- **Modern Hebrew:** *wh* + “neg”, e.g. *ma še-lo* “whatever”, lit. ‘what that-NEG’ (Eilam 2009)
- **Turkish:** *wh* + cond. marker on verb, e.g. *kim kazan-ır-sa*, lit. “who win-AOR-COND” (Iatridou 2013)

Korean

- Korean is similar in using a “disjunctive” element combined with a *wh*-word with an FC type interpretation, but not as relatives (and also compatible with a general universal reading): (Gill et al. 2006)

(9) Nwukwu-**na** kimchi-lul cohahan-ta
 who-DISJ kimchi.ACC like.DECL
 “Everyone/anyone likes kimchi.”

- (Gill et al. suggest that for feature-valuing reasons, *na* is always accompanying by a phonetically-silent *Dist* distributive operator; and in their analysis the μ -type interpretation actually is contributed by *Dist*)

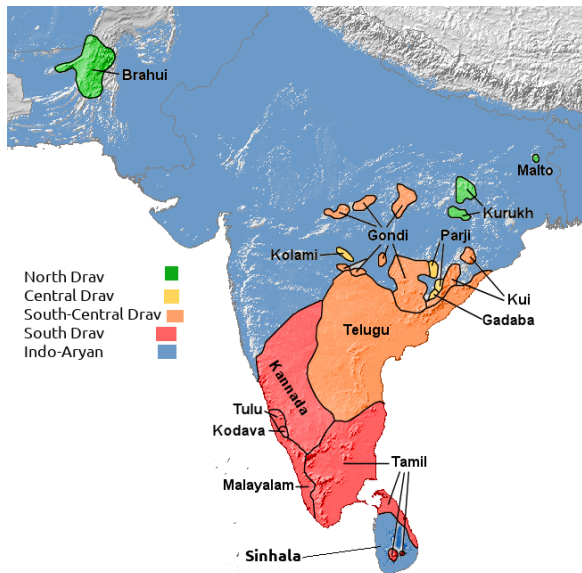
Hungarian

- (10) [Akit szeret Mari], azt meghívta a buliba.
 [who(ever) loves Mari], pro invited to party
 “Who(ever) Mari loves, she invited to the party.”
- (11) János vehet [amit **csak** akar]
 John buy [what **only** wants]
 “John can buy whatever he wants.”

(True) relative-correlatives in (early) Sinhala & Dravidian

- in Classical & modern literary Sinhala, true relative-correlatives (as opposed to prenominal modifying relative clauses), involve a relative clause formed with a rel. pro. and a “clause-closing” (Hock) particle, of the κ (!)-type: *da*
- similarly in South and South-Central Dravidian languages, true relative-correlatives involve a relative clause formed with a *wh*-word and a “clause-closing” particle of the κ -type: \bar{o}

South Asia language distribution [Drav. & Sinhala]



Conforming Dravidian examples

- (12) [uṅkaḷ-ukku evvaḷavu vēṅṅ-um-]-ō avvaḷuvu nān taru-kir-ēn
 [you.PL.DAT how_much want.FUT.3NEU.SG]-ō that_much I give.PRES.1SG
 “However much you want, that much I’ll give you.” [Tamil] (Krishnamurti 2003: 448)
- (13) [ēt-oruvan drōham ceyy-unnuv-]-ō avan pāpi ākunnu
 [which-one.MSC.SG evil.ACC do.PRES]-ō he sinner become.PRES
 “Whoever does evil, he becomes a sinner.” [Malayalam] (Krishnamurti 2003: 448)
- (14) [brāhmanar āga bēk(u) anta yāruyārige āśe ide.y]-ō
 [brahmin.NOM become.INF want say.CNJ who-who.DAT desire.NOM be.PRES.3SG.NEU]-ō
 avarella brāhmanaru
 they.NOM-all brahmin.PL.NOM
 “Whoever has the desire to become a brahmin, they all are brahmins.” [Kannada] (Steever 1998)
- (15) [ēdi kāwāl(i)-]-ō adi paṭṭu-ku-pō
 [what be-wanted-]-ō that take-REFL-go.IMP.2SG
 “Take away whatever you want.” [Telugu] (Krishnamurti 2003: 448)
- (16) [mā kiḍu inika manad]-ō dani pēru veRtu
 [our hands what is]-ō that name tell.IMPV
 “Tell us the name of whatever is in our hands.” [Konda] (Krishnamurti & Benham 1998)

Analysis of *wh*(/rel. pro.)+ μ forms

- Dayal (1995): Hindi *bhī* (& English *-ever*) are polarity forms that induce widening (and are licensed if result in strengthening)
- Dayal (1997): *bhī/ever* add a modal dimension, introducing i(dentity)-alternatives

Dayal's (1997) analysis

whatever_j [IP...t_j...] denotes at w =

- ① $\lambda Q \forall i$ -alternatives $\in f(w)(s)$ [$Q(i)(\lambda x[P(i)(x)])$] where P is the property derived by abstracting over x_j in the IP denotation.
- ② $f(w)(s) = w'$: $\forall p[s$ believes $p(w) \rightarrow p(w')$ for a world of evaluation w and speaker s , $f(w)(s)$ is the set of worlds in which the speaker's beliefs about w hold.
- ③ a world $w' \in f(w)(s)$ is an i -alternative iff there exists some $w'' \in f(w)(s)$, such that $\lambda x[P(w')(x)] \neq \lambda x[P(w'')(x)]$

Interaction with aspect (Dayal 1997)

Identity

- ① “Mary is cooking something. Whatever she is cooking uses onions.”
- ② $\forall i\text{-alt} \in f(w)(s)[\text{uses-onions}(i)(\iota x[\text{cooking}(i)(x)(m)])]$
- ③ $i\text{-alt}_1 : \iota x[\text{cooking}(i)(x)(m)] = \text{ratatouille}$
 $i\text{-alt}_2 : \iota x[\text{cooking}(i)(x)(m)] = \text{daal}$
 $i\text{-alt}_3 : \iota x[\text{cooking}(i)(x)(m)] = \text{goulash}$
 ...

Plain FR

- ① “What Mary is cooking uses onions.”
- ② $\text{uses-onions}(w)(\iota x[\text{cooking}(w)(x)(m)])$

FC

- ① “Whatever Mary cooks uses onions.”
- ② $\forall w[C(w)][\forall i\text{-alt} \in f(w)(s)[\text{uses-onions}(i)(\iota x[\text{cooking}(i)(x)(m)])]]$

Aspect in Hindi and *bhī* (Dayal 1995: 193–4)

Identity

- (17) jo bhī laṛkī **sundar hai** ravi usse
 REL.PRO *bhī* girl **pretty be.3RD.SG.PRES** Ravi her.INSTR
 milnā cāhtā hai
 meet.INF want.IMPF.MASC.SG be.3RD.SG.PRES
 “Ravi wants to meet the girl who is beautiful (whoever she may be).”

FC

- (18) jo bhī laṛkī **sundar hotī** hai ravi
 REL.PRO *bhī* girl **pretty be.IMPF.FEM.SG be.3RD.SG.PRES** Ravi
 usse milnā cāhtā hai
 her.INSTR meet.INF want.IMPF.MASC.SG be.3RD.SG.PRES
 “Ravi wants to meet any girl who is beautiful.”

Sinhala *da* in modern Sinhala

In modern literary Sinhala, alongside of disjunctive uses of *hō* as in (19), we also find a special epistemic indefinite use, as in (20)

- (19) rahul **hō** amin **hō** gamaṭa giyāya
 Rahul **hō** Amin **hō** village.DAT go.PAST.3SG
 ‘Rahul or Amin went to the village.’ [Modern Literary Sinhala]
- (20) kaluvarē kaurun **hō** mā ælluvēya
 darkness-in who **hō** I.ACC touch.PAST.MSC.3SG
 ‘Someone (unknown) touched me in the darkness.’ [Modern Literary Sinhala]

Extension of *da* to indefinites in modern colloquial Sinhala

In modern colloquial Sinhala, both *hari* (earlier *hō*) and *də* (earlier *da*) can form epistemic indefinites

- (21) a. Kau **də** mese uda natanava.
 Who **də** table on dance.PRES.
 b. Kauru **hari** mese uda natanava.
 Who **hari** table on dance.PRES.
 “Someone is dancing on the table.”

- The difference between (21-a) and (21-b): either intensional vs extensional (Slade 2011) or difference in identification method [name/def. descript. vs deictic/visual] (Slade 2015)
- Perhaps developed epistemic presuppositional component earlier on, and it shows up in the relative-correlative formation, utilising the anti-singleton presupposition similar to Alonso-Ovalle & Menéndez-Benito (2010) and the choice-function variable analysis of Q-particles from Slade (2011).

Semantics of da/\bar{o} : maximality

- Treat relative pronouns (& *wh*-words appear in that function) as following Jacobson (1995), Rullmann (1995) as involving a maximality operator *max* (Link 1983)

Relative pronoun interpretation

- (22) a. [who Sita sees]
 b. $max(\lambda x[see(s, x)])$
 c. $\iota[see(s, x) \wedge \forall x'[see(s, x') \rightarrow x' \leq x]]$

- satisfied where the set denoted by the relative pronoun includes sum, and crucially a least upper bound, OR (trivially) where the set is a singleton set

Semantics of da/\bar{o} : choice-functions & anti-singleton presupposition

da/\bar{o}

treat da/\bar{o} as denoting a variable over choice-functions

anti-singleton constraint

Assuming that da bears the anti-singleton presupposition found in epistemic indefinites, the Q-particle component is satisfied when it applies to a non-singleton set [refined below]

anti-singleton constraint refined

$$|\{x : x = y(w) : y \in P(w) : w \in W_{sb}\}| > 1$$

The set of extensions in worlds consistent with speaker's beliefs of the members of P is greater than one.

Satisfying both anti-singleton presupposition & *max*: FC

- assume *max* applies first
- If anti-singleton presupposition is to be satisfied, must be multiple individual(/individual concepts) for which the proposition is satisfied (w.r.t. speaker's knowledge)
- If *max* is satisfied, there must be a maximal sum, or else a single atom
- Thus, one way both can be satisfied is where there is a maximal sum (“plural” interpretation of relative pronoun), assuming that maximal sums count as non-singletons. Thus derives the FC “universal” reading

Satisfying both anti-singleton presupposition & *max*: identity

- assume *max* applies first
- assume the case in which the relative pronoun points to a single individual; this trivially satisfies *max*
- but this will not satisfy the anti-singleton presupposition of the Q-particle, UNLESS i(dentity)-alternatives are introduced at this point. Thus derives the identity reading

FC/Universal reading

Sinhala FC

- (23) [Yam kenek tā kīvā kered] da ovun hæma denā
 [REL.PRO person.INDEF.NOM your bidding do.CAUS.3PL.PRES] **da** they.OBL all people
 genæ ...rājya sīmāyen piṭat væ yā
 take.CONV ...kingdom border outside ? go.IMPV
 “Go out of the kingdom after taking all of those who obey you.” (*Amāvatura* 64, Wijemanne 1984: 210)

$$IP_1: \exists f \in CH : \lambda t \lambda P. P(t)(take')(f(\{g + c + j\}))$$

$$CP: f(\max(\{g + c + j, g + c, g + j, j + c \dots\})) \quad IP_2: \lambda P. P(t)(take')$$

Identity reading

Sinhala FC

- (24) [yamak'hu paḷamu diṭim]_{RC} da [ohu marā gaṇan sapurami
 [REL-PRON.MSC.SG.ACC firstly see.1SG]_{RC} da [him kill.CONV number complete.PRES.1SG
]_{cc}
]_{cc}

“**Whichever person** I see first, I shall kill him and complete the number.” (*Amāvatura* 133,
 cited from Wijemanne 1984: 210) [Classical Sinhala]

IP₁: $\exists f \in CH : \lambda t \lambda P. P(t)(take')(f(\{x : I \text{ see } x \text{ first}\}))$

CP: $f(max(\{x : I \text{ see } x \text{ first}\}))$ IP₂: $\lambda P. P(t)(take')$

presupposes: $|\{x : x = y(w) : y \in P(w) : w \in W_{sb}\}| > 1$, for $P = x : I \text{ see } x \text{ first}$
 (i.e. implicates that speaker doesn't know/care about the extension “the person I see first”)

(Apparently) Non-conforming Dravidian examples

- (25) [yāva huḍuga nimm-a kai-kuluk-id-an-]-ō ā huḍuga nann-a geḷeya
 [which boy you.GEN hand-shake.PAST.3M.SG]-ō that boy I.GEN friend
 “The boy who you shook hands with is my friend.” [Kannada] (Krishnamurti 2003: 448)
- (26) [[yāvud-annu huḍukalu] nīvu iṣṭu kaṣṭa paṭṭir]-ō ā pustaka
 [[which-one.ACC seek.INF] you.NOM such difficulty befall.PAST.2PL]-ō that book
 ill-ē ide
 here-just be.PRES.3SG.NEU
 “The book, looking for which gave you such trouble, is right here.” [Kannada] (Steever 1998: 152)

resolution?

But perhaps (26) reflects speaker’s indifference about identity of book, and perhaps (25) is referencing addressee’s ignorance (id of boy) rather than speaker’s.

Examples with clear plurals

Dravidian

- (27) [brāhmanar āga bēk(u) anta yāruyārige āše ide.y]-ō
 [brahmin.NOM become.INF want say.CNJ who-who.DAT desire.NOM be.PRES.3SG.NEU]-ō
 avarella brāhmanaru
 they.NOM-all brahmin.PL.NOM

“Whoever has the desire to become a brahmin, they all are brahmins.” [Kannada] (Steever 1998)
 [repeated from (14) above]

(Classical) Sinhala

- (28) [Yam kenaknaṭa dun danæ phala mahata ve] da ovunaṭa dan devā
 [REL.PRO person.DAT.PL.INDEF gift given fruit great is] **da** them.DAT gift give.CAUSE
 ava mænævæ
 come proper

“I must come after making him give gifts to those, to whomever when some gift is given, the result (of that giving) is great.” (*Amāvatura* 79, Wijemanne 1984: 210)

- (29) [Yam kenek tā kīvā kered] da ovun hæma denā
 [REL.PRO person.INDEF.NOM your bidding do.CAUS.3PL.PRES] **da** they.OBL all people
 genæ ...rājya sīmāyen piṭat vā yā
 take.CONV ...kingdom border outside ? go.IMPV

“Go out of the kingdom after taking all of those who obey you.” (*Amāvatura* 64, *Ibid.*)

Other Classical Sinhala examples

multiple relative pronouns correlating with multiple correlative pronouns

- (30) [Yamek yamak'hu gætte] da he
 [REL.PRON.INDEF.NOM REL.PRON.INDEF.GEN taken] **da** DEM.PRON.NOM
 ovhaṭa mæ ve vayi
 DEM.PRON.DAT
 “May the respective owner of each item have it back.” [*Amāvatura* 301]

With conditional *nam* rather than Q-particle *da*

- (31) [yam gihi minisek ovun-ge vāda maṇḍanaṭa nisi
 [REL-PRON householder person.INDEF their talks trample.INF.DAT suitable
 vī]_{RC} **nam** [ohaṭa pādapariçārikā veti]_{CC}
 be.PAST.3SG]_{RC} **COND.PTCP** [him.MASC.DAT wed.PRES.3SG]_{RC}
 “They become the wives of **any layman who** may be able to refute their
 arguments.” (*Amāvatura* 150, cited from Wijemanne 1984: 212) [Classical Sinhala]

Classical Sinhala - multiple clauses in relative

With neither *da* nor *nam* in the case of multiple clauses in relative (apparently optional with multiple clauses)

- (32) **yam se** suḷaṅga hamana, kalæ atu sæleyi, diya sæleyi,
REL.PRO the wind blows, the branches shake, the water shakes,
 ehi sit næti, **e seyin** mæ kāya daṇḍa du acittaka veyi
 they are mindless, **in that way** physical action is mindless
 “When the wind blows, the branches shake, the water shakes; they
 are mindless; in the same manner, physical action too is mindless.”
 (*Amāvatura* 51)

Old Sinhala examples

Relative-correlatives in Old Sinhala

True relative-correlatives in Old Sinhala are distinctly rare (the prenominal modifying type is vastly preferred); I have found only 4 examples.

Only 1 uses any sort of closing particle (the conditional *nam* rather than *da*)

- (33) [Pere **yam** hæjin **nam** ma]_{RC} [pahani-j
 [formerly **REL-PRON** know.PAST **COND-PTC** 1SG-PRN.ACC/GEN]_{RC} [satisfy.PAST
nam alalæ mā]_{RC} [e yat me et]_{CC}
COND-PTC love.LOC 1SG-PRN.GEN]_{RC} [3SG.ACC go.COND this come.PAST.3PL]_{CC}
 “She who was known (to me) earlier, who was satisfied in her love of me, when I go
 to her, these (people) are coming (from her).” [*Sigiri Graffiti* 251] [Old Sinhala]

[it also happens to involve multiple relatives correlated to a single correlative]

Old Sinhala examples (cont.)

The other 3 examples use *yam* but no ‘closing’ particle, e.g.:

- (34) Sihigirī aṅṅnak baṅavat me yannā var sera
 Sihigiri.LOC woman.INDEF speak.COND.CAUS this going occasion thief
 se ho yam desekæ mā bæli
 like 3SG.FEM-PRN REL-PRON direction.LOC.INDEF 1SG-PRN.GEN look.PAST
 tomo. agan me niyā.
 REFLX-PRN.FEM. women this manner

“When I, while passing by, speak to a lady of Sihigiri, she herself, roguishly, looked in the direction (where) I (was). Women are like this.” [*Sigiri Graffiti* 305] [Old Sinhala]

Early Dravidian relative-correlatives

In early South Dravidian, the particle *ō* is not always in evidence in relative-correlatives

- (35) [e-vaṛi nall-avar āṭavar]_{RC} [a-vaṛi nall-ai]_{CC}
 [which-place good.MASC.3PL men.MASC.3PL]_{RC} [that-place good.2SG]_{CC}
 “At whichever place men are good, at that place you are good.” (cited from Lehmann 1998: 94) [Old Tamil]
- (36) [yātonṭu mahārājanīyōgam]_{RC} [atu a-vaṇṇam]_{CC}
 [what.NEUT maharaja-order]_{RC} [that.NEUT in-that-manner]_{CC}
 “Whatever is the king’s order, (let) that (be done) in that manner.” (cited from Pillai 1973: 165) [Old Malayalam]

BUT

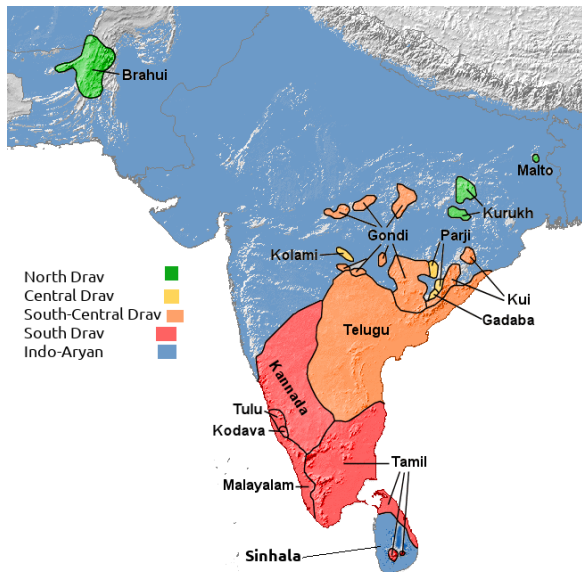
- (37) e-nāl-ō . . . nī celvatu a-nāl koṇṭu iṛakkum
 which-day-ō . . . you go.NONPAST.NOM that-day from die.NONPAST.3SG.NOM
 ivaḷ . . . uyir-ē
 she . . . life
 “On whichever day you will go, from that day (onwards) her life will die.” (*Kalittokai* 5.18-19, cited from Thomas Lehmann, p.c.) [late Old Tamil (500-700 A.D.)]

More on Dravidian relative-correlatives

Absence of \bar{o} in relative-correlatives

Also lacking in post-relative clause particles are Old Kannada (Hock 2008), and (all?) modern “northern” Dravidian languages (Pengo, Kuvi, Kolami, Parji, Kurukh) (Hock 1988, 1989, 2008).

South Asia language distribution [Drav. & Sinhala]



Non-varying relative-correlatives?

Question:

Why would relative-correlatives would always involve variation in the first place?

Possible answer, part i (answer to: “how could this be the case?”):

For “regular” relative clauses, Sinhala (& Dravidian) possess a prenominal modifying participial construction, very usual as far back as the 8th-c. A.D.:

- (38) [[guruwəɾəyək wenə] mahattəya] huŋgak dannəwa.
 [[teacher.INDEF.NOM become.PRES.ADJ] man.DEF] much know.PRES

“The man who is becoming a teacher knows a lot.”

(cited from Gair 1995[1998]: 245)

[Colloquial Sinhala]

- (39) Nægæ mehi [[ma senehī] himabiyanaətə]
 rise.CONV this.LOC [[1SG-PRN.GEN love.PAST.PTCP] lady.DAT.PL]

tupa no daha

2PL-PRN.GEN NEG show anger.IMPV

“Having ascended here, do not show anger towards the ladies who have been loved by me.” (Lit., “. . . towards the loved-by-me ladies”)

(*Sigiri Graffiti* no. 308; Paranavitana 1956)

[Old Sinhala]

Prenominal modifying participial relatives in Dravidian

- (40) [PP [NP [IP [AdjP nērru iṅkē va-nt-a] [NP anta paiyan]]]-ai] nān
 [PP [NP [IP [AdjP yesterday here come-PAST-ADJ] [NP that boy]]]-ACC] I.NOM
inru pār-tt-ēn
 today see-PAST-1SG
 “today I saw the boy who came here yesterday” (Krishnamurti 2003: 444) [Tamil]
- (41) pūcca kiṭakunna cākə
 cat lie.PRES.ADJ sack
 “the sack on which the cat lies ...” (Krishnamurti 2003: 445) [Malayalam]
- (42) hinde gōḍaun iruva aṅgaḍi
 behind warehouse be.NONPAST.ADJ shop
 “the shop which has a warehouse at the back ...” (*Ibid.*) [Kannada]
- (43) puli camp-in-a maniṣi
 tiger.NOM kill-PAST-ADJ man
 “the person whom the tiger killed ...” (*Ibid.*) [Telugu]

Comparison with Nepali

Also the case in Nepali

Especially in the spoken language, Nepali prefers the prenominal modifying participial type of relative:

- (44) a. hijo āeko mānche ...
 yesterday come.PERF.PTCP man ...
 “The man who came yesterday...”
- b. bholī āune mānche ...
 tomorrow come.INFN.PTCP man ...
 “The man who’s coming tomorrow ...”

- The ‘true’ relative-correlatives in Nepali are used mostly in formal writing. And in speech the relative pronouns most frequently appear as ‘ever’ FRs (even when they don’t include the ‘ever’-element, i.e. the additive *pani*)
- (this is not true, however, of the corresponding Hindi relative-correlatives, which are frequent in speech as well)

Underspecification of regular relatives

Hungarian

- (45) János vehet [amit akar]
 J buy.POT.3SG.INDEF [what.ACC wants]
 “János can buy what(ever) he wants.” (Lipták 2012: 6n5)

Underspecification of “plain” relatives in English

- (46) I’m free, to choose whom I please, any old time.
 I’m free, to please who I choose, any old time.
 (“I’m free”, M. Jagger & K. Richards 1965, from Horn 2000)

Summary

- μ -type “ever” relatives involve the μ -element introducing i-alternatives and providing universal quantificational force over these (as per Dayal 1997)
- κ -type “ever” relatives involve the κ -element contributing an anti-singleton presupposition, which can be satisfied either by a plural individual (FC-like) or the situation where the speaker has uncertainty/indifference regarding the extensions of the relevant individual concept

Remaining issues

- Provide a more compositional account for *wh*- μ -type relatives
 - reformulation which captures the fact that these elements are μ elements, something more generalised
- further probe into differences between Hindi & Nepali (same μ -type element, but different syntax)
- further investigation into whether there always a variation/alternative component in Classical/literary Sinhala and South Dravidian relative-correlative?

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